



Happenings in the Office of Attorney General Steve Carter

February 19, 2008

Attorney General Steve Carter and Avon High School Officials Launch Initiative to Combat Teen Suicide

Indiana Attorney General Steve Carter teams up with the Jason Foundation to launch the "Indiana Safe Students Initiative" at Avon High School in efforts of raising awareness and prevention of youth suicide.

Education is a fundamental step towards the prevention of teen suicide. It is important for parents and educators to recognize the warning signs in youth and act quickly – it could be a matter of life or death. Suicide is the third leading cause of death for young people ages 15 to 24 and the fourth leading cause for ages 10 to 14.



"The number of kids crying out for help is alarming based upon these statistics," said Carter. "By bringing together those who serve our youth with those organizations that work to combat teen suicide, there can be more hands-on monitoring to spot the warning signs of suicide and address the issue before its too late." [Press Release](#)

ALERT

Do Not Call Deadline 2nd Quarter 2008

Tuesday, February 19, 2008 is the next deadline to register for Indiana's Do Not Call list announced Indiana Attorney General Steve Carter. Phone numbers placed on the list by 11:59 PM (ET) Tuesday will begin receiving benefits of the law **starting April 1, 2008.**

There are currently more than 1.9 million phone numbers registered on the Do Not Call list. [Press Release](#)

Indiana Attorney General Steve Carter Pledges to Appeal a Harrison County Court Ruling Dismissing Enforcement Action Against Robo-Caller American Family Voices

Attorney General Steve Carter will appeal a ruling issued this week in Harrison Circuit Court that dismisses a lawsuit to enforce Indiana's Automated Dialing Law against American Family Voices (AFV).

"Until all appeals are resolved, companies make political robo-calls at their peril," Carter said. "We will continue to enforce the law to protect citizens from unwanted and illegal practices."

Carter filed a lawsuit in September, 2006 against AFV and had sought an injunction after receiving complaints about automated calls being made by the organization that did not provide the required live operator to obtain the recipient's permission to play the pre-recorded message. AFV is one of nine companies the state has filed suit against or reached a court-ordered agreement with for alleged violations of federal or state statutes regulating automated and pre-recorded calls since 2004. [Press Release](#)

CONSUMER NEWS:

Indiana Attorney General Steve Carter Announces \$8.8 Million Recovery for Indiana Medicaid from Merck & Co., Inc.

The Indiana Medicaid program will receive a total of \$8.8 million as part of two separate global settlements totaling \$649 million with Merck & Co., Inc., announced Attorney General Steve Carter today. Merck will refund Indiana \$3.8 million for the state's share of the Medicaid loss. The rest of the recovery will go to the federal government for its share of the Medicaid loss.

Merck is the manufacturer of the drugs Zocor, Vioxx, and Pepcid. The settlements resolve allegations that the company failed to pay rebates due to state Medicaid Programs under the Federal Medicaid Drug Rebate statute.

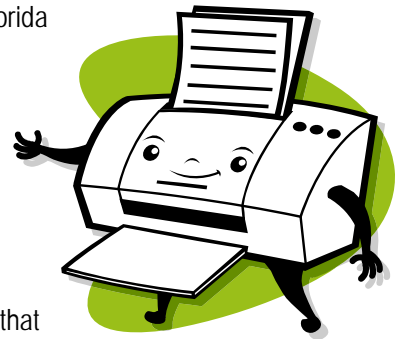
"This is a significant recovery for our Medicaid program," Carter said. "This case is an example of how one company avoided the appropriate rebates by creative interpretation of the rules to further their drug marketing programs. The financial penalty and sanctions of this settlement should send a strong message that compliance and recovery are goals of our agencies collective efforts." [Press Release](#)

Vacation Blast Faxer is Sued by Indiana Attorney General Steve Carter MHJP, Inc. Blanketed the State with Junk Vacation Package Advertisements

Attorney General Steve Carter is asking a Hamilton County Court for an injunction to halt a Florida Company and its operators from faxing Indiana residents unwanted advertisements.

"This group has taken upon itself to force its advertising and marketing costs onto unsuspecting Indiana citizens who never asked for the information," Carter said. "We have heard of more than 100 faxes coming from 37 Indiana counties. I would expect hundreds more may have been sent, clogging personal and business fax machines across the state."

The faxes advertised "Vacation Blowout" and "Celebrate the Magic" travel packages to places like Las Vegas, Mexico, Hawaii, and various locations in Florida. The faxes also represented that the solicitation was directed to "All Employees, or from "Our Corporate Travel Center" or "Our Corporate Travel Department". Carter alleges that this was a misrepresentation of a sponsorship, approval or affiliation with the fax recipient that the sender knew or should have known did not exist. [PressRelease](#)



Attorney General Steve Carter Files Lawsuit against a Warsaw Auto Dealer

Stephen E. Schaadt and Quality Auto of Warsaw, Inc. are facing a lawsuit for failing to deliver vehicle titles and pay off trade-in cars to at least seven consumers announced Indiana Attorney General Steve Carter.

"This is an effort to get customers the appropriate, legal paperwork for them to use the cars that they have paid for," Carter said. "In the meantime we will also seek penalties against the dealer for misrepresenting his side of the deal when he sold cars to the unsuspecting victims." [Press Release](#)